Rebecca Boone, a Whitmer High School student, is the winner of the 26th Annual Congressional Arts Competition in the Ninth Congressional District of Ohio.



Rebecca Boone and Marcy with the winning piece.

A six-member panel of distinguished jurors honored Ms. Boone for her artwork, "I Am," which will be exhibited in the U.S. Capitol for one year. Ms. Boone and her parents received three round-trip tickets, courtesy of Southwest Airlines, to attend a June 24 awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Runnersup in the competition were: Hannah Jones, a student at Oberlin High School, and Jamie Scherer, also a student at Whitmer.

"Congratulations to all the participants for their wonderful creations," said Congresswoman Kaptur. "Everyone is a winner in this competition, in my opinion."

Honorable Mentions were awarded to: Emily Smith (Ottawa Hills H.S.), Lauren Unverferth and Elizabeth Padgett (Notre Dame Academy); Alexis Molik, Alisa Tippin, Sheheraza Draw, Amber Whitenburg, Jamie Scherer and Katelyn Cody (Whitmer), Paris Wells (Toledo Waite H.S.), Deidra Young (St. Ursula).

University of Toledo awards were received by Amber Whitenburg and Alexis Molik, both Whitmer students. The Bowling Green State University awards were received by Sheheraza Draw and Jamie Scherer, also both students at Whitmer.

The Eastman & Smith award was received by Jacob Forren (Edison High School).

Courtney Jones (Toledo Bowsher H.S.), received the Commercial Design Award. Her artwork will be reproduced into glassware by Libbey, Inc.

Honorable Mentions in the commercial category were received by: Chelsea Irons (Bowsher),

Melanie Cox, Hailey Suydam, and Rebecca Boone (Whitmer), Heather Klatt (Clay H.S.), Alisha Stahl and Hallandra Johnson (Waite), and, Deidra Young (St. Ursula). All participants in the commercial design competition have been invited to a Design Career Workshop hosted by Libbey.

Jurors included Joe Meiser (Instructor, First Year Studies at BGSU), Barbara Rollins (board member, Firelands Association of the Visiting Arts), Diana Attie (Professor of Art, Drawing at UT), Sue Hague-Rogers (Board Member, Arts Commission of Greater Toledo), Tom McGlaughlin (renowned glass artist) and Sandy Shult (Libbey Inc., graphic artist).

The students' artwork will be displayed in the lobby of Fifth Third Center at One Seagate through Feb. 24 before traveling to Oberlin College Science Center (March 3-21). A reception for participants will be held on Sunday, March 8 (1-3 p.m.) in Oberlin.

The competition was sponsored by Congresswoman Kaptur in connection with the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo, the longest standing arts commission in the state of Ohio.

For more information on the contest, please click here.